

10/55924

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Docket No.: 050340-0194

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Naoya MATSUOKA : Confirmation Number: Not yet assigned  
assigned :  
Application No.: Not yet assigned : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Filed: November 08, 2005 : Examiner: Not yet assigned  
: For: PREVENTION OF FLOODING OF FUEL CELL STACK

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and no certification or fee is required.

A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note this is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the U.S. and copies of the references cited were transmitted by WIPO and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner. Therefore it is believed that Applicants have met all requirements regarding duty of disclosure under 37

- CFR 1.56. Acknowledgement and consideration of these documents are respectfully  
- requested.

However, to ensure that these references are available to the Examiner, we are providing copies of these references herewith. Since the Search Report was from the EPO search authority, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277  
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SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>050340-0194</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>Not yet assigned</b> <b>10/5559.24</b>	
			APPLICANT <b>Naoya MATSUOKA</b>		
(PTO-1449)			FILING DATE <b>November 08, 2005</b>	GROUP <b>Not yet assigned</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sub>2</sub> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	US	2003/0082433 A1	05-01-2003	Sano et al.	
	US	6,322,918 B1	11-27-2001	Kelley et al.	
	US				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number & Kind Codes ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear
		JP 2002-208421 A	07-26-2002	DENSO CORP	JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		EP 0 716 463 A2	06-12-1996	TOYOTA MOTOR CO LTD	X
		WO 99/28985	06-10-1999	BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS	x
		EP 1 450 432 A2	08-25-2004	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	x
		JP 2002-184449 A	06-28-2002	HONDA MOTOR CO LTD	JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
		D.P. WILKINSON, et al., "Water management and stack design for solid polymer fuel cells," Journal of Power Sources, April 1, 1994, pp 117-127, Vol. 49, No. 1/3, Elsevier Sequoia, Lausanne, CH			
		Thomas A. ZAWODZINSKI, Jr., et al., "A Comparative Study of Water Uptake By and Transport Through Ionomeric Fuel Cell Membranes," Journal of the Electrochemical Society, July 1993, pp 1981-1985, Vol. 140, No. 7, The Electrochemical Society, Inc.			
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.